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Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Identical letters dated 16 March 2004 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On Sunday, 14 March 2004, two Palestinian terrorists perpetrated a double homicide bombing at the Port of Ashdod, killing 10 Israelis and wounding 18, one critically. The assailants used high-grade plastic explosive devices containing ball bearings to inflict maximum pain and injury on the victims. The force of the bombs, which exploded approximately 100 yards apart, caused the roofs of numerous port office buildings to collapse and threw many of the victims a long distance from the blast. The murdered were Gil Abutbul, 31, Dan Asulin, 51, Avi Avraham, 34, Zion Dahan, 30, Mazal Marzianno, 30, and Moris Tubul, 30, all of Ashdod; Ophir Damari, 31, and Moshe Hendler, 29, both of Rechovot; Avi Suissa, 55, of Kiryat Malachi; and Pinchas Avraham Zilberman, 46, of Tel Aviv. Hamas and Yasser Arafat's own Fatah Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades claimed responsibility for the attack and identified the bombers as Nabil Ibrahim Masoud and Muhammad Zahil Salem, both 18 and residents of Jabalya in the northern Gaza Strip.

The homicide bombers exploded Sunday just several hundred metres from a cluster of bromine tanks. Had the terrorists succeeded in detonating the bombs closer to the tanks, the effects could have been even more devastating, with poisonous gases spreading to a 1.5-kilometre radius, killing many more people.

The terrorist attack in Ashdod follows a number of terrorist attempts that were averted by Israel's defence forces. These include a triple suicide bombing planned by Yasser Arafat's Fatah Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, which was averted when one of the three bombers, a Palestinian woman from Schem (Nablus), was intercepted by Israeli security personnel. The other two members of her cell were planning to board a public commuter bus in central Israel and detonate their explosives. The female

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would-be bomber was instructed to wait, dressed up as a volunteer of Magen David Adom (Israel's emergency medical service), for the arrival of rescue forces and to set off her explosive belt among them. This plan of using medical attire as a disguise in order to target rescue workers tending to the injured after a terrorist attack is a horrific demonstration of the depravity of the terrorism that Israel is compelled to confront on a daily basis.

These attacks further demonstrate the brazen unwillingness of the Palestinian leadership to fulfil its counter-terrorist obligations, in violation of the most basic obligations of international law, human rights, Security Council resolutions and the road map. In his remarks yesterday to the Israeli Parliament, the Knesset, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said,

> "The Palestinian leadership has done nothing; it has not carried out arrests, it has not fought against terrorism, it has not confiscated weapons and has not stopped incitement in media, schools and mosques. On the one hand, Fatah takes responsibility for terror attacks, and on the other, they condemn in English the attack. The Palestinians must understand that the only way to peace is to battle terror and incitement."

Israel calls upon the international community to make clear to the Palestinian leadership and to those regimes sponsoring terrorism in the region its absolute rejection of terrorist tactics and its acceptance of nothing less than the complete dismantling of terrorist organizations and relentless efforts to prevent terrorism and bring its perpetrators and supporters to justice in accordance with international law, signed agreements between the parties and Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 1373 (2001). Only a united and uncompromising stand against the perpetrators of these crimes — in all international and domestic forums — can bring an end to the Palestinian strategy of terrorism and violence and make peace between the peoples of the region possible. Rewards for the continuing Palestinian policy of intransigence and terror, in the form of political concessions or the toleration of one-sided initiatives in the organs of the United Nations can only embolden the terrorists and undermine efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful settlement.

I submit the present letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism launched in September 2000, which document the crimes for which the terrorists and their supporters must be held fully accountable.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 156 and 67, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ambassador Arye **Mekel**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Security Council
Fifty-ninth year

Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Identical letters dated 16 March 2004 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Yesterday, 15 March 2004, Israeli security forces thwarted a homicide bombing when they detained a 12-year-old Palestinian boy, Abdallah Quran, while he was attempting to smuggle a powerful bomb through the Hawara checkpoint, south of Nablus. Exploiting his innocent appearance, two Nablus-based Tanzim terrorists had recruited the boy to transport a bag carrying a fully armed explosive device through the checkpoint and promised him a large sum of money if he would hand it to a woman waiting on the other side. Israeli security forces noticed a suspicious-looking bag in the boy's possession and, upon examining it, discovered a 7-to-10-kilogram explosive charge packed with metal shards, bolts and shrapnel. Subsequently, the boy told the soldiers that he was unaware that he was even carrying the bomb. The terrorists, members of Chairman Yasser Arafat's own Fatah faction, had planned to use the boy as an unwitting suicide bomber, intending to detonate the explosive with a mobile phone as the boy passed near Israeli security forces.

This grave maltreatment of an innocent 12-year-old Palestinian boy brings to a new level of cruelty the tactics of the terrorist organizations operating freely in Palestinian territory. The phenomenon of the exploitation of children by these organizations for the purpose of carrying out terrorist attacks and suicide bombings poses a contemptible and criminal affront to the most basic obligations of human rights and decency. The ongoing failure of the Palestinian leadership to prevent the shameless abuse of children in the terrorist campaign denotes an act of wilful neglect that deserves the condemnation of the international community.

In recent months, three additional attacks involving Arab teenagers have been thwarted, including a homicide attack in Israel by a 17-year-old boy who blew

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himself up near Jinspot, a village east of Qalqilya; a shooting attack in Afula by three teenagers, 13 to 15 years old, who were arrested near an army roadblock in Jenin; and an attempt to smuggle munitions from Egypt in the Rafah area by teens aged 11 to 14 years.

Since the start of the Palestinian campaign of violence in September 2000, minors have successfully carried out 29 suicide attacks, and since January 2001 alone, more than 40 Palestinian minors have been arrested in thwarted suicide attacks. Children are increasingly recruited by Palestinian terrorist organizations for attacks because they can easily pass through crowded areas without arousing suspicion. This practice severely harms the freedom of movement of Palestinian residents and underscores the importance of Israeli security measures. Today Palestinian children and young people are recruited to carry out violent attacks, including suicide bombings, and to assist in a variety of terror-support activities, including the smuggling of arms, spying and digging tunnels. The Palestinian leadership and the Palestinian Authority continue to do nothing to stop the terrorist activity, including the abuse of Palestinian children.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 156 and 67, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ambassador Arye **Mekel**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ending 30 June 2003

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In paragraph 7 of its resolution 48/216 B of 23 December 1993, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it on the measures taken or to be taken to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors at the same time that the report of the Board was submitted to the Assembly. Accordingly, the present report is submitted in response to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the 12-month period ending 30 June 2003.

A great majority of the comments of the Secretary-General are duly reflected in the report of the Board of Auditors. The present report therefore addresses only those recommendations that require further comments from the Administration, particularly on issues related to the replenishment of strategic deployment stocks, the presentation of financial statements, allotment procedures and human resources management.

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I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 7 of its resolution 48/216 B of 23 December 1993, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it on the measures taken or to be taken to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors at the same time that the report of the Board was submitted to the Assembly. Accordingly, the present report is submitted in response to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the 12-month period ending 30 June 2003.[1]

2. In the preparation of the present report, account was taken of the provisions of the following General Assembly resolutions:

(a) Resolution 50/204 A of 23 December 1995 (in particular para. 4 regarding implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors);

(b) Resolution 51/225, section A, of 3 April 1997 (in particular para. 10 regarding the timetable for the implementation of recommendations of the Board);

(c) Resolution 52/212 B of 31 March 1998 (in particular paras. 2-5) and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the proposals of the Board for improving the implementation of its recommendations approved by the Assembly (A/52/753, annex);

(d) Resolution 56/233 B of 27 June 2002 (in particular para. 3), in which the Assembly endorsed the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/887, para. 11) on the preparation of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors.

3. The responses of the Administration to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors fall under the responsibility of the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Assistant Secretaries-General of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts and the Office of Central Support Services. Any further development or progress with regard to the implementation of the Board's recommendations will be reported to the General Assembly as and when required.

II. Implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors

4. **In paragraph 32 of its report,[1] the Board of Auditors recommended that the Administration monitor the redeployment of allotments continuously throughout the year to ensure that resources were prioritized according to the efficient delivery of outputs and effectiveness in the accomplishment of the mandates.**

5. The Administration continues to monitor the redeployment of resources during the financial period to ensure optimum budget implementation, taking into account operational requirements on the ground.

6. **In paragraph 35 of its report, the Board recommended that the Administration:**

(a) **Perform continuous monitoring of the accuracy of data on the funds monitoring tool to ensure continued reliance by users;**

(b) **Continue to increase the number of personnel to be trained in the use of the funds monitoring tool, with special focus on certifying officers at the mission level;**

(c) **Monitor the frequency of use of the funds monitoring tool by registered users and address instances in which the system was not used effectively;**

(d) **Obtain feedback on problems experienced by users of the funds monitoring tool and address those problems accordingly;**

(e) **Establish indicators for peacekeeping operations against which the performance of the missions could be measured in terms of the impact of the revised allotment procedures and the funds monitoring tool.**

7. Further to the information provided in paragraph 36 of the report, it should be noted that with respect to the use of the funds monitoring tool at Headquarters and in field missions, procedures have been established to guarantee the accuracy of the data. The results of the survey conducted in January 2004 to assess the impact of the tool in funds management at the mission level will serve as a guide for the refinement and further development of the tool. A mechanism to measure the frequency of the use of the funds monitoring tool has been developed.

8. With regard to the training of cost-centre managers, training teams with representatives from the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations will deliver on-site training at peacekeeping missions in April and June 2004. The establishment of benchmarks against which the financial performance of the missions can be measured is also being addressed.

9. **In paragraph 53 of its report, the Board recommended that the Administration:**

(a) **Remedy the factors causing delays in the write-off and disposal process;**

(b) **Continue to identify obsolete and unserviceable property that was no longer useful for possible write-off action;**

(c) **Hand over outstanding "radio system" equipment to the Kosovo Government, with compensation in accordance with financial regulation 5.14;**

(d) **Review its policies on asset management with emphasis on the replacement of assets in a timely manner to avoid the accumulation of ageing equipment at peacekeeping missions;**

(e) **Ensure that disposals are undertaken in the best financial interest of the United Nations.**

10. The comments of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on recommendations (b) and (e) are reflected in paragraph 54 of the Board's report.

Regarding the disposal of the "radio system", the Department concurs with the recommendation that the system be donated to the Government of Kosovo. The Department will take appropriate action with respect to the disposal of the equipment in accordance with established procedures.

11. **In paragraph 56 of its report, the Board recommended that the Administration continue its efforts to search for avenues to settle amounts owed to Member States that had remained unpaid for long periods of time in the context of its review of the feasibility of consolidating the accounts of peacekeeping operations.**

12. Under the current legislative framework, the Administration does not have the ability to pay long-outstanding amounts due to Member States in individual missions until the corresponding unpaid assessments are settled. It should be noted that the Administration is preparing a further report on the feasibility of consolidating peacekeeping accounts, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 57/319 of 18 June 2003. Should the assessments continue to remain unpaid, the Administration's ability to repay long-outstanding amounts due to Member States will depend upon the decision, if any, that the General Assembly may take on the consolidation of peacekeeping accounts.

13. **In paragraph 74 of its report, the Board indicated that the Administration agreed with its recommendation that the full amount of outstanding special assessed contributions needed to be recovered in order to sufficiently fund the strategic deployment stocks programme.**

14. As at December 2003, a total amount of $13,581,780 was outstanding for the strategic deployment stocks programme, of which $13,572,722 was owed by the United States of America. It should be noted that, pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 56/292 of 27 June 2002, an amount well in excess of the amount outstanding for strategic deployment stocks is being held in suspense accounts for the United Nations Protection Force and the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina pending settlement of the balance of the strategic deployment stocks assessment by the United States.

15. **In paragraph 81 of its report, the Board indicated that the Administration agreed with its recommendation to consider the timely funding and replenishment of strategic deployment stock reserves.**

16. The established procedures relating to pre-mandate commitment authority do not take into account the replenishment of strategic deployment stocks. However, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, in conjunction with the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, will explore the feasibility of implementing the recommendation.

17. **In paragraph 84 of its report, the Board indicated that the Administration agreed with its recommendation that it:**

(a) **Establish written agreements for all shipments already made from the strategic deployment stocks to United Nations system offices other than peacekeeping missions and check all transactions to ensure the proper recording thereof;**

(b) **Record all shipments from strategic deployment stocks in the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) simultaneously with the**

transfer thereof and reconcile the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi database with IMIS data on a periodic basis;

(c) **Submit the reconciliations to the Accounts Division, also indicating replacement values to ensure the capturing of all amounts owed to the strategic deployment stocks reserve before the closing of the accounts at the end of the financial period.**

18. The Administration has established a Strategic Deployment Stocks Finance Working Group comprising representatives of the Logistics Support Division and the Finance Management and Support Services of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Peacekeeping Financing Division and the Accounts Division of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts. The Group is currently working to formulate procedures for the administration and financial management of the strategic deployment stocks, and will address the recommendations contained in paragraphs 84 and 91 of the Board's report.

19. **In paragraph 91 of its report, the Board indicated that the Administration agreed with its recommendation that it:**

(a) **Reach a decision on a formally approved method for replenishing strategic deployment stocks consistently by both peacekeeping missions and other United Nations entities and develop standard operating procedures to be implemented in accordance with the approved methodology.**

20. A working group has been formed, comprising representatives of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts and the Office of Mission Support of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, to consider the methods used for replenishing the strategic deployment stocks and related issues. The required accounting procedures are currently being prepared for that exercise.

21. **In paragraph 99 of its report, the Board indicated that the Administration agreed to continue to have a strategic deployment stocks Steering Group to discuss all matters related to strategic deployment stocks represented by all departments that could play a role in the successful implementation of the strategic deployment stocks concept.**

22. The recommendation has been implemented. The Steering Group is made up of representatives from three services under the Logistics Support Division and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi. The Department has expanded the representation to include sections that could play a role in the successful implementation of the strategic deployment stocks concept.

23. **In paragraph 161 of its report, the Board reiterated its previous recommendation that the Administration finalize and expedite the promulgation and implementation of a code of ethics and the signing of declarations of independence after due consideration by all the relevant stakeholders.**

24. The ethical guidelines have been drafted and will be placed on the Procurement Division's Intranet site upon their promulgation. The revised Procurement Manual also contains a chapter entitled "United Nations Staff Ethics and Professional Responsibility". The issue of declaration of independence is under legal review.

25. **In paragraph 163 of its report, the Board recommended that the Administration take steps to ensure that all staff associated with the procurement process be made aware and regularly reminded of the procurement guidelines.**

26. Having noted the Board's observation that not all mission staff were aware of the guidelines that were circulated previously, the Procurement Division immediately re-circulated and re-emphasized the guidelines.

27. **In paragraph 174 of its report, the Board recommended that the Administration ensure that missions utilize procurement plans to facilitate an effective and efficient procurement process.**

28. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations has confirmed that the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo has prepared its procurement plan for the period 2003/04. The Office of Mission Support will remind the Mission to use the procurement plan to guide its procurement activities during the financial period ending 30 June 2004. The United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea will encourage closer collaboration between the requisitioning units and sections to improve the quality of requisitions and also to facilitate the monitoring of the implementation of its procurement plans.

29. **In paragraph 177 of its report, the Board reiterated its previous recommendation that the Procurement Division, in conjunction with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, identify and evaluate the reasons for the excessive lead times in the procurement cycle and take measures to decrease those lead times to a reasonable level.**

30. While there are many factors beyond the control of the Procurement Division, such as inadequately completed requisitions, prolonged manufacturing time and delays in the receipt of shipping documents and invoices, as recognized by the Board in its report, the Procurement Division will continue to strive, in consultation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, to identify and eliminate, to the extent possible, factors that increase procurement lead times.

31. In paragraph 181 of its report, the Board recommended that the Administration take appropriate measures to qualify vendors before their acceptance as a prospective supplier/contractor, in full compliance with the United Nations Procurement Manual.

32. The Procurement Division as part of an inter-agency initiative, is in the process of reviewing the vendor management process. The outcome will be available by the end of the first quarter of 2004. In addition, the Procurement Division has become an active participant in the United Nations Global Marketplace, formerly called the United Nations Common Supplier Database, which has been redesigned to serve as a single gateway for vendors to register with participating organizations of the United Nations system. The Global Marketplace, which became operational effective 1 February 2004, will allow participating organizations to address specific requirements for vendor registration. After a testing period, the Procurement Division will request the field missions to utilize the Global Marketplace for the registration of vendors. The Procurement Division also continues to address the issue of vendor registration in the training and outreach programmes already under way.

33. **In paragraph 192 of its report, the Board reiterated its previous recommendation that peacekeeping missions compile assessments of progress and final performance of vendors and forward them to the Procurement Division in a timely manner in order to prevent situations in which contracts are maintained, extended and/or renewed in the absence of vendor evaluations.**

34. The Procurement Division and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations have instituted a number of initiatives in this respect, including the distribution of vendor performance forms electronically along with each and every purchase order so as to facilitate reporting by the requisitioning offices. The Division will continue its efforts to encourage the requisitioning office to submit those reports in a timely manner, as it is dependent on the cooperation of requisitioning offices to complete the reports. The aforementioned United Nations Global Marketplace, which has the capacity to record vendor performance information from participating organizations, will also be utilized to make performance information readily available to procurement staff in the field as well as at Headquarters.

35. **In paragraph 234 of its report, the Board recommended that the Administration effect the necessary amendments on IMIS to ensure that the leave records for all mission staff could be accurately and efficiently maintained.**

36. Further to the comments of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations as set out in paragraphs 233 and 235 of the Board's report, as at 1 November 2003 IMIS had been implemented in 15 missions. All IMIS users in the missions received thorough and extensive training in the time and attendance programmes. The training sessions focused on such topics as maintenance of accurate information on annual leave, sick leave, night differential, official business, travel days, home and family leave travel and occasional recuperation breaks. The relevant staff were also trained in the IMIS reporting facility to enable them to generate time and attendance reports, which are given to staff members for review and validation of their accuracy.

37. **In paragraph 259 of its report, the Board recommended that the Administration implement measures to ensure that the performance appraisal system process was properly used to identify and evaluate the achievement of training needs, as this would assist the Organization in evaluating whether the competency gaps of staff had been narrowed.**

38. The Performance Appraisal System (PAS) was designed and is administered by the Office of Human Resources Management as a performance management tool. Although the system is not intended to serve as a training evaluation mechanism, the first reporting officers are required to comment on the achievement of the stated staff development goals (see page 22 of "Using PAS: A Guide for Staff and Supervisors"). In effect, the PAS has provided to the extent possible measures requested in the recommendation.

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/58/5), vol. II, chap. II.

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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-ninth year

Letter dated 16 March 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I provide you hereinafter with a summary of Israeli violations and acts of aggression against Lebanon, as follows.

Violations of airspace

Between 2200 hours on 2 February and 0225 hours on 3 February 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms, heading north, then proceeded towards Jubb Jannin, Anjar and Riyaq, circled between the towns of Riyaq and Tayyibah, returned in the direction of Sidon and circled over Sidon and Damur, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 0305 and 0830 hours on 3 February 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew eastward over the sea off Sidon until it reached Damur, then circled between Damur and Sidon. It then headed for Khaldah, Beirut, Jounieh and Byblos (Jubayl), reaching Batrun, whereupon it proceeded in an easterly direction, then circled between the Ihdin and Bsharre areas and subsequently between Shikka and Tripoli, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

During various intervals between 1135 and 1400 hours on 4 February 2004 two Israeli helicopters overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms.

Between 1145 and 1330 hours on 8 February 2004 Israeli military aircraft overflew areas in the South, Kurah, Batrun, and Bsharre at very high altitude, breaking the sound barrier. They circled over the South and Shikka and were met with fire from ground anti-aircraft batteries belonging to the army and elements of the resistance.

Between 1155 and 1210 hours on the same day, four Israeli military aircraft overflew Lebanon, two over the occupied Shab`a Farms, heading north towards the Hirmil area, and the other two over the sea off Jounieh at a distance of 10 miles from the coast, proceeding east as far as Hirmil, then north, all four thus violating Lebanese airspace.

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At 1157 hours on the same day, two Israeli military aircraft flew east over the sea off Jounieh until they reached the town of Ihdin, then circled over Shikka, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1225 and 1245 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Tibnin and Bint Jubayl areas at very high altitude, subsequently returning between 1345 and 1400 hours and circling over the regions of Tyre and Naqurah, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1230 and 1325 hours two Israeli military aircraft flew north over the Marj Uyun region and circled over parts of the South, reaching as far as the region of Bayt al-Din, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1300 and 1330 hours on the same day two Israeli military aircraft overflew the sea off Shikka at a distance of 10 miles from the coast, circled over Shikka, headed south over the coast as far as the Sarafand area, returned in a northerly direction over the coast, proceeded east as far as the Ihdin region and then headed south to Damur and then west, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

At 2209 hours on the same day three Israeli military aircraft entered Lebanese airspace, coming in over the sea off Jounieh, circled over the Mount Lebanon range, Jounieh and Byblos and 10 miles out over the sea, then left at 2300 hours over the sea off Jounieh.

Between 2210 and 2300 hours on the same day, two Israeli military aircraft overflew the sea off Jounieh at a distance of 10 miles from the coast, proceeded towards Jounieh and circled over the Mount Lebanon range, Jounieh and Byblos and 10 miles out over the sea, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 2212 and 2300 hours on the same day an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew in an easterly direction over the sea off Jounieh, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1215 and 1245 hours on 9 February 2004, Israeli military aircraft overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms area at medium altitude, then returned and overflew the same area between 1500 and 1510 hours.

Between 1800 and 1820 hours on the same day two Israeli enemy helicopters overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms, then returned between 1820 and 1850 hours, flying off the coast of the Naqurah area, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1125 and 1140 hours on 10 February 2004, Israeli military aircraft overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms area at very high altitude, then returned and overflew the same area between 1545 and 1700.

Between 1715 and 1730 hours on 26 February 2004 two Israeli helicopters overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms.

Between 1120 and 1405 hours on 29 February 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the sea off Tyre at a distance of 12 miles from the coast, heading towards Tyre, and circled over the cities of Sidon and Tyre at an altitude of 28,000 feet, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1555 and 2150 hours on the same day an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew over the sea west of the city of Sidon in the direction of the coast at a

distance of 12 miles, then headed towards Dahr al-Baydar and Zahle and circled between Zahle and Anjar, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1520 and 1755 hours on 1 March 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew over the sea west of the city of Sidon in the direction of Khaldah, circled over the sea off Khaldah at a distance of two miles from the coast, proceeded towards the areas of Hazimiyah, Khaldah, Na`imah and Ra's Beirut and circled over them, thus violating Lebanese airspace. Between 1815 and 1835 hours, military aircraft belonging to the Israeli enemy overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms at very high altitude.

Between 2015 and 2040 hours on the same day an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew north over the sea opposite the Zahrani region at a distance of 11 miles from the coast, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

At 2345 hours on the same day an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft, flying at low altitude, circled over the Republic Palace and the Ministry of Defence, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

At 0850 hours on 1 March 2004, Israeli military aircraft overflew the precinct of the `Alma al-Sha`b control post at medium altitude.

At 0920 hours enemy aircraft flew at medium altitude over the precinct of the Bint Jubayl detachment.

At 1830 hours Israeli military aircraft overflew the precinct of the `Alma al-Sha`b control post at medium altitude and the occupied Shab`a Farms at high altitude.

At 2145 hours on the same day the said aircraft overflew the Bint Jubayl area at medium altitude.

At 0710 hours on 2 March 2004, Israeli enemy military aircraft overflew the precinct of the `Alma al-Sha`b control post at medium altitude.

At 0950 hours Israeli helicopter aircraft flew over the border with occupied Palestine opposite the precinct of the Bint Jubayl detachment.

At 1350 hours on the same day, sounds of explosions, the cause and nature of which are unknown, were heard inside the occupied Shab`a Farms.

At 1805 hours Israeli enemy forces fired a number of flare bombs by means of artillery shells from their positions in the vicinity of Birkat Rishah in the direction of Ra's Naqurah — over the sea.

At 1830 hours on the same day Israeli helicopter aircraft overflew the border with occupied Palestine and also overflew the area of Birkat Rishah and Yarin along the border line.

At 1910 hours on the same day Israeli military aircraft overflew the Bint Jubayl area at medium altitude.

Between 1445 and 2305 hours on 2 March 2004, Israeli military aircraft overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms area at very high altitude.

Between 0145 and 0245 hours on 4 March 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew in a north-easterly direction over the sea off Sidon at a distance of 10

miles from the coast and circled over Beirut International Airport, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1645 and 1710 hours on the same day two Israeli helicopters overflew the occupied Shab'a Farms area.

Violations of territorial waters

At 0914 hours on 1 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli military boat fired a number of rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Between 1340 hours and 1355 hours on 3 February 2004 an Israeli military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned between 2005 and 2205 hours and fired three flare bombs and a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Between 0735 hours and 1200 hours on 4 February 2004 an Israeli military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, between 1630 and 1920 hours, fired a number of rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Between 1805 hours and 2020 hours on 7 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli military boat fired two flare bombs over the said waters.

Between 0015 hours and 0050 hours on 8 February 2004 an Israeli military boat fired two flare bombs in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, between 1800 and 2005 hours on the same day, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds and a flare bomb over the said waters.

At 0315 hours on 9 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Between 1150 hours and 1245 hours on 10 February 2004, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, at 2209 hours, fired a flare bomb over the said waters.

At 0144 hours on 25 February 2004 three Israeli enemy military boats and two rubber dinghies were seen carrying out maintenance operations on buoys off Ra's Naqurah.

Between 2135 and 2210 hours on the same day, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli military boat fired a flare bomb and a number of rounds of fire in the direction of the said waters.

At 0340 hours on 26 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

At 0745 hours on 27 February 2004, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, at 2050 hours, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

At 2244 hours on 29 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a flare bomb over the said waters.

At 2105 hours on 1 March 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

At 1045 hours on 2 March 2004, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, between 1515 and 1805 hours, fired a flare bomb and a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire in the direction of the said waters.

At 2005 hours on 3 March 2004, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a flare bomb and a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned between 1200 and 1310 hours and fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Israeli violations and acts of aggression in the field

At 1815 hours on 5 February 2004 Israeli enemy forces, from their positions inside the occupied Shab`a Farms, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds at surrounding areas.

Between 1130 and 1145 hours on 8 February 2004 Israeli enemy forces, from their position opposite the area of Labbunah, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds at the area surrounding the said position.

At 1930 hours on 29 February 2004 Israeli enemy forces, from their position on Ramta hill in the occupied Shab`a Farms, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds towards the area surrounding the said position.

At 1135 hours on 2 March 2004 Israeli enemy forces, from their position on Ramta hill in the occupied Shab`a Farms, fired a number of rounds of light- and medium-weapons fire towards the area surrounding the said position.

These grave violations are part of a continuous series of provocative Israeli violations of Lebanon's territorial waters, airspace and land in contravention of the principles of international law and the resolutions of international legitimacy, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations has repeatedly called for a halt to them.

In view of these violations and the stepping-up of Israeli threats to Lebanon and the safety of its territory and its citizens, Lebanon calls upon the Security Council to deter Israel from such violations and threats, which place international peace and security in jeopardy. Israel must assume full responsibility for their repercussions and consequences of such acts.

In drawing your attention to the gravity and possible consequences of such acts of aggression, I request to have this letter of complaint circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sami **Kronfol**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/58/738–S/2004/217*

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Security Council

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General Assembly
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Agenda item 37
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Security Council
Fifty-ninth year

Letter dated 16 March 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I provide you hereinafter with a summary of Israeli violations and acts of aggression against Lebanon, as follows.

Violations of airspace

Between 2200 hours on 2 February and 0225 hours on 3 February 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the occupied Shab'a Farms, heading north, then proceeded towards Jubb Jannin, Anjar and Riyaq, circled between the towns of Riyaq and Tayyibah, returned in the direction of Sidon and circled over Sidon and Damur, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 0305 and 0830 hours on 3 February 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew eastward over the sea off Sidon until it reached Damur, then circled between Damur and Sidon. It then headed for Khaldah, Beirut, Jounieh and Byblos (Jubayl), reaching Batrun, whereupon it proceeded in an easterly direction, then circled between the Ihdin and Bsharre areas and subsequently between Shikka and Tripoli, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

During various intervals between 1135 and 1400 hours on 4 February 2004 two Israeli helicopters overflew the occupied Shab'a Farms.

Between 1145 and 1330 hours on 8 February 2004 Israeli military aircraft overflew areas in the South, Kurah, Batrun, and Bsharre at very high altitude, breaking the sound barrier. They circled over the South and Shikka and were met with fire from ground anti-aircraft batteries belonging to the army and elements of the resistance.

Between 1155 and 1210 hours on the same day, four Israeli military aircraft overflew Lebanon, two over the occupied Shab'a Farms, heading north towards the Hirmil area, and the other two over the sea off Jounieh at a distance of 10 miles

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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from the coast, proceeding east as far as Hirmil, then north, all four thus violating Lebanese airspace.

At 1157 hours on the same day, two Israeli military aircraft flew east over the sea off Jounieh until they reached the town of Ihdin, then circled over Shikka, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1225 and 1245 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Tibnin and Bint Jubayl areas at very high altitude, subsequently returning between 1345 and 1400 hours and circling over the regions of Tyre and Naqurah, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1230 and 1325 hours two Israeli military aircraft flew north over the Marj Uyun region and circled over parts of the South, reaching as far as the region of Bayt al-Din, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1300 and 1330 hours on the same day two Israeli military aircraft overflew the sea off Shikka at a distance of 10 miles from the coast, circled over Shikka, headed south over the coast as far as the Sarafand area, returned in a northerly direction over the coast, proceeded east as far as the Ihdin region and then headed south to Damur and then west, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

At 2209 hours on the same day three Israeli military aircraft entered Lebanese airspace, coming in over the sea off Jounieh, circled over the Mount Lebanon range, Jounieh and Byblos and 10 miles out over the sea, then left at 2300 hours over the sea off Jounieh.

Between 2210 and 2300 hours on the same day, two Israeli military aircraft overflew the sea off Jounieh at a distance of 10 miles from the coast, proceeded towards Jounieh and circled over the Mount Lebanon range, Jounieh and Byblos and 10 miles out over the sea, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 2212 and 2300 hours on the same day an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew in an easterly direction over the sea off Jounieh, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1215 and 1245 hours on 9 February 2004, Israeli military aircraft overflew the occupied Shab'a Farms area at medium altitude, then returned and overflew the same area between 1500 and 1510 hours.

Between 1800 and 1820 hours on the same day two Israeli enemy helicopters overflew the occupied Shab'a Farms, then returned between 1820 and 1850 hours, flying off the coast of the Naqurah area, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1125 and 1140 hours on 10 February 2004, Israeli military aircraft overflew the occupied Shab'a Farms area at very high altitude, then returned and overflew the same area between 1545 and 1700.

Between 1715 and 1730 hours on 26 February 2004 two Israeli helicopters overflew the occupied Shab'a Farms.

Between 1120 and 1405 hours on 29 February 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the sea off Tyre at a distance of 12 miles from the coast, heading towards Tyre, and circled over the cities of Sidon and Tyre at an altitude of 28,000 feet, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1555 and 2150 hours on the same day an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew over the sea west of the city of Sidon in the direction of the coast at a distance of 12 miles, then headed towards Dahr al-Baydar and Zahle and circled between Zahle and Anjar, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1520 and 1755 hours on 1 March 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew over the sea west of the city of Sidon in the direction of Khaldah, circled over the sea off Khaldah at a distance of two miles from the coast, proceeded towards the areas of Hazimiyah, Khaldah, Na`imah and Ra's Beirut and circled over them, thus violating Lebanese airspace. Between 1815 and 1835 hours, military aircraft belonging to the Israeli enemy overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms at very high altitude.

Between 2015 and 2040 hours on the same day an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew north over the sea opposite the Zahrani region at a distance of 11 miles from the coast, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

At 2345 hours on the same day an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft, flying at low altitude, circled over the Republic Palace and the Ministry of Defence, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

At 0850 hours on 1 March 2004, Israeli military aircraft overflew the precinct of the `Alma al-Sha`b control post at medium altitude.

At 0920 hours enemy aircraft flew at medium altitude over the precinct of the Bint Jubayl detachment.

At 1830 hours Israeli military aircraft overflew the precinct of the `Alma al-Sha`b control post at medium altitude and the occupied Shab`a Farms at high altitude.

At 2145 hours on the same day the said aircraft overflew the Bint Jubayl area at medium altitude.

At 0710 hours on 2 March 2004, Israeli enemy military aircraft overflew the precinct of the `Alma al-Sha`b control post at medium altitude.

At 0950 hours Israeli helicopter aircraft flew over the border with occupied Palestine opposite the precinct of the Bint Jubayl detachment.

At 1350 hours on the same day, sounds of explosions, the cause and nature of which are unknown, were heard inside the occupied Shab`a Farms.

At 1805 hours Israeli enemy forces fired a number of flare bombs by means of artillery shells from their positions in the vicinity of Birkat Rishah in the direction of Ra's Naqurah – – over the sea.

At 1830 hours on the same day Israeli helicopter aircraft overflew the border with occupied Palestine and also overflew the area of Birkat Rishah and Yarin along the border line.

At 1910 hours on the same day Israeli military aircraft overflew the Bint Jubayl area at medium altitude.

Between 1445 and 2305 hours on 2 March 2004, Israeli military aircraft overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms area at very high altitude.

Between 0145 and 0245 hours on 4 March 2004 an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew in a north-easterly direction over the sea off Sidon at a distance of 10 miles from the coast and circled over Beirut International Airport, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1645 and 1710 hours on the same day two Israeli helicopters overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms area.

Violations of territorial waters

At 0914 hours on 1 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli military boat fired a number of rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Between 1340 hours and 1355 hours on 3 February 2004 an Israeli military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned between 2005 and 2205 hours and fired three flare bombs and a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Between 0735 hours and 1200 hours on 4 February 2004 an Israeli military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, between 1630 and 1920 hours, fired a number of rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Between 1805 hours and 2020 hours on 7 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli military boat fired two flare bombs over the said waters.

Between 0015 hours and 0050 hours on 8 February 2004 an Israeli military boat fired two flare bombs in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, between 1800 and 2005 hours on the same day, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds and a flare bomb over the said waters.

At 0315 hours on 9 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Between 1150 hours and 1245 hours on 10 February 2004, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, at 2209 hours, fired a flare bomb over the said waters.

At 0144 hours on 25 February 2004 three Israeli enemy military boats and two rubber dinghies were seen carrying out maintenance operations on buoys off Ra's Naqurah.

Between 2135 and 2210 hours on the same day, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli military boat fired a flare bomb and a number of rounds of fire in the direction of the said waters.

At 0340 hours on 26 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

At 0745 hours on 27 February 2004, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, at 2050 hours, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

At 2244 hours on 29 February 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a flare bomb over the said waters.

At 2105 hours on 1 March 2004, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

At 1045 hours on 2 March 2004, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned and, between 1515 and 1805 hours, fired a flare bomb and a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire in the direction of the said waters.

At 2005 hours on 3 March 2004, an Israeli enemy military boat fired a flare bomb and a number of rounds of medium-weapons fire in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah. It then returned between 1200 and 1310 hours and fired a number of medium-weapons rounds in the direction of the said waters.

Israeli violations and acts of aggression in the field

At 1815 hours on 5 February 2004 Israeli enemy forces, from their positions inside the occupied Shab`a Farms, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds at surrounding areas.

Between 1130 and 1145 hours on 8 February 2004 Israeli enemy forces, from their position opposite the area of Labbunah, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds at the area surrounding the said position.

At 1930 hours on 29 February 2004 Israeli enemy forces, from their position on Ramta hill in the occupied Shab`a Farms, fired a number of medium-weapons rounds towards the area surrounding the said position.

At 1135 hours on 2 March 2004 Israeli enemy forces, from their position on Ramta hill in the occupied Shab`a Farms, fired a number of rounds of light- and medium-weapons fire towards the area surrounding the said position.

These grave violations are part of a continuous series of provocative Israeli violations of Lebanon's territorial waters, airspace and land in contravention of the principles of international law and the resolutions of international legitimacy, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations has repeatedly called for a halt to them.

In view of these violations and the stepping-up of Israeli threats to Lebanon and the safety of its territory and its citizens, Lebanon calls upon the Security Council to deter Israel from such violations and threats, which place international peace and security in jeopardy. Israel must assume full responsibility for the repercussions and consequences of such acts.

In drawing your attention to the gravity and possible consequences of such acts of aggression, I request to have this letter of complaint circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sami **Kronfol**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Fifty-ninth year

Letter dated 16 March 2004 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to the letter dated 8 December 2003, addressed to you by Andreas D. Mavroyiannis, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 8, 13, 15, 16, 23, and 30 December 2003, on 7, 10, 14, 16, 21, 22, 25, 27 and 28 January, on 6, 11, 12, 17, 18, 21, 22, 25 and 27 February, and on 3, 7, 10 and 12 March 2004, as follows:

On 8 December 2003, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft flying from the FIR of Ankara in one formation twice entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a reverse direction.

On 13 December 2003, one Gulfstream Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it departed on the same day, in a reverse direction.

On 15 December 2003, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, where it remained.

On the same day, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Apostolos Andreas, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 16 December 2003, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

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On 23 December 2003, one Cougar Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 30 December 2003, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republi of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On the same day, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, where it remained.

On 7 January 2004, one CN-235 and one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type entered the Nicosia FIR, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where they departed on the same day, in a reverse direction.

On 10 January 2004, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it departed on the same day, in a reverse direction.

On 14 January 2004, four F-16 Turkish military aircraft coming from a westerly direction entered the Nicosia FIR in two formations, violating the international air traffic regulations, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 16 January 2004, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara in one formation entered the Nicosia FIR, violating the international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a westerly direction.

On 21 January 2004, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it departed on the same day in a reverse direction.

On 22 January 2004, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara in one formation entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting in a reverse direction.

On 25 January 2004, one C-235 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Apostolos Andreas, before exiting in a south-easterly direction.

On 27 January 2004, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara in one formation entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a reverse direction.

On the same day, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara in one formation entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Karpasia, before exiting in a reverse direction.

On 28 January 2004, one C-160 and one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The CN-160 coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it exited on the same day in a reverse direction.

(b) The CN-235 coming from a south-easterly direction entered the FIR of Nicosia, flying over the occupied area of Apostolos Andreas, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 6 February 2004, one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko and later at the illegal airport of Krini, where it remained.

On the same day, one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type coming from the illegal airport of Krini (where it had previously landed in the morning hours), violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, landed at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it took off, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 11 February 2004, one C-130 and one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where they took off on the same day, flying in a reverse direction.

On 12 February 2004, two F-4 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara in one formation entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a reverse direction.

On 17 February 2004, two F-4 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara in one formation entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations, before departing in a reverse direction.

On 18 February 2004, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it took off on the same day, in a reverse direction.

On 21 February 2004, one Cougar Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the same airport.

On 22 February 2004, one Cougar Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the same airport.

On 25 February 2004, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it took off on the same day, before departing in a reverse direction.

On 27 February 2004, one C-650 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the Nicosia FIR, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Apostolos Andreas, before exiting in an easterly direction, from where it returned, and departed in a reverse direction.

On 3 March 2004, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it took off on the same day, and departed in a reverse direction.

On 7 March 2004, two formations of six F-16 Turkish military aircraft, one C-130, one C-160 and one CN-235 coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The two formations of F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia flying over the occupied area of Cape Apostolos Andreas, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting in an easterly direction.

(b) The C-130 and C-160 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, flying over the occupied area of Apostolos Andreas, violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, from where they returned on the same day in a reverse direction.

(c) The CN-235 Turkish military aircraft patrolled over the shore of the occupied area of Cape Apostolos Andreas in a search and rescue mission, violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 10 March 2004, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko, from where it departed on the same day, in a reverse direction.

On 12 March 2004, two formations of a total of eight F-16 , one C-160, one C-130 and one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The C-160 and C-130 entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating the national airspace of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Cape Apostolos Andreas, exiting in a south-easterly direction, from where they returned on the same day, in a reverse direction. The C-130 also flew over the occupied area of Cape Greco.

(b) The CN-235 coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia and patrolled over the shore of the occupied area of Cape Apostolos Andreas in a search and rescue mission, violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

(c) The two formations of F-16 entered the FIR of Nicosia from a south-easterly direction, flying over the occupied area of Cape Apostolos Andreas, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I strongly protest against all the above-mentioned violations of the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, which are contrary to international law, as well as to Security Council resolutions on Cyprus. We sincerely hope that the Government of Turkey will respect the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus and will refrain from further violations. We also hope that the Government of Turkey will change its negative stance and contribute substantively to the efforts for a just and functional solution to the Cyprus problem on the basis of United Nations resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 30, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Andreas **Hadjichrysanthou**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.